

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/700,705

Docket No. 1625-157-1

Amendment

Reply to Office Action dated April 21, 2005

REMARKS

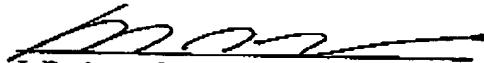
The foregoing amendments and these remarks are in response to the Office Action dated April 21, 2005. This amendment is timely filed.

At the time of the Office Action, claims 1-3 were pending in the application. In the Office Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 1,918,272 to Kopsa et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,786,861 to Eggers. Claim 3 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Although Applicant disagrees with the rejection, in the interests of obtaining a speedy allowance, the subject matter of claims 1 and 2 has been incorporated into claim 3, and claims 1 and 2 are cancelled herein. Claim 3 is thus in condition for allowance.

Applicant has made every effort to present claims which distinguish over the prior art, and it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance. Nevertheless, Applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance. In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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